

PONTARDAWE RURAL DISTRICT
COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

SENIOR SANITARY AND
SHOPS INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1951



NEATH :

W. WHITTINGTON LTD., WIND STREET

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MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1951

To the Chairman and Members of the
Pontardawe Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1951. The Report is compiled in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health as given in Circular 42/51 (Wales).

In my Annual Report for 1950, I summarised the geographical layout of the Pontardawe Rural Area and stressed the uneven distribution of the population within the district. Attention was drawn to the relatively heavy crowding into the valleys with very little habitation of the surrounding open hill areas. This has been occasioned by the erection of the various industries in close proximity to rivers, canal, rail and other services at a time when road transport was very limited. The lack of adequate road services and facilities necessitated the building of workers' homes within easy walking distance from the various industries. Improvement in roads and public transport systems have changed the position so that it is now possible to spread the domiciles of the workers further away from the actual industries, higher up the hills and surrounding the valleys.

This is a good thing. The higher air is clearer, free from the mists of the valley bottom and in many areas of your District the sunshine hours are longer—a very important feature in the health and well-being of the younger population in particular. Your Authority is therefore to be commended in extending your various Housing projects on the higher levels.

As your Housing programmes expand there is a natural drift of your population centres. With this shift of population, it is natural that shopping and other ancillary facilities will become necessary in your new neighbourhoods.

Concomitant with the increase in housing, particularly the building of modern houses with modern plumbing and the conversion of older type houses to modern plumbing your Authority can anticipate a progressive increase in the use of water both for domestic consumption, and for the disposal of excremental matter. During the summer months when water stocks naturally become depleted this increasing demand can lead to serious shortages.

At the same time the increasing use of the water carriage system for sewage disposal will lead to the need for revision of the present disposal arrangements. This was mentioned in my last Annual Report and I am glad to state that plans for the alternative arrangements are in an advanced stage of preparation.

It will be recalled that 1951 was heralded in by weather conditions of considerable inclemency. During the month of January in particular, there was a relatively high sickness incidence, some sixteen cases of influenza and four pneumonias being notified to the Health Department. Close liaison with the local office of the Ministry of National Insurance confirmed the high incidence of sickness not otherwise notifiable. The deaths from all causes during January were 76—29 higher than any other month during the year under review. These figures compare with national figures, so no undue local significance can be attributed to them.

During the year four cases of Acute Poliomyelitis were notified, one of which was paralytic. Preventive action was undertaken by the officers of the Public Health Department to control and prevent the spread. As will be seen from perusal of the Particulars of the Incidence of Notifiable Diseases during the Year, measles showed the highest incidence. As members will recall, during the year I drew attention to the distribution of the measles incidence. During the year, Cilybebyll, then Blaenegel and Mawr, then Godrergraig and Alltygrug, then Cwmllynfell and Caegurwen showed high figures in turn. This suggested a direct spread first across the Swansea Valley and then upwards through the valley villages via Cwmllynfell and to Caegurwen. With the constant and easy intercourse between adjoining villages as must necessarily exist in an area of this type, such a spread is extremely difficult to control. The very nature of the spread, however, needs to be kept in mind against the possible eventuality of a disease even more serious than measles.

When consideration is given to the actual notifications in each Ward of any disease such figures must necessarily be correlated to the susceptible population in each Ward. Thus a smaller figure in a small Ward such as Ynysymond can show a higher incidence than a bigger figure in a large Ward such as Clydach.

One case of food poisoning was notified during the year. Whilst the possibility of missed cases—not even seen by their doctors—cannot be excluded from the mind, it is pleasing to record this low figure particularly in an area where so many meals and snacks are partaken away from home, in factory, and industrial canteens. Your officers continue to exercise strict surveillance over such canteens and establishments and at all times offer their advice and guidance where necessary.

During the year strict supervision of shops, particularly where food has been exposed for sale, has been carried out. The unhygienic practice of allowing dogs into such shops has been considered and the co-operation of shop owners in discouraging this obtained. To assist shop owners, printed cards requesting dog owners to prevent their animals entering such shops were distributed for display on the premises, with gratifying results. In years past it has been the practice of certain shops, particularly greengrocers to display their wares outside fronts of their shops. As this practice obviously lent itself to fouling by animals, your officers have secured the co-operation of shop owners and this practice has now been discontinued, except that vegetables, etc., are displayed out of reach of pollution.

This report would be incomplete without a brief reference to the progress of your Council's housing programme and to demonstrate your activity in this direction tables have been included to show the numbers and types of applicants rehoused during the year. Tables are also included to indicate the numbers and types still waiting and these are explained in detail in the appropriate sections.

The importance of this sphere of your Council's activities cannot be over or too frequently stressed. Poorly lit, damp and insanitary housing accommodation, coupled only too frequently with overcrowding and apartment existence fosters disease and ill-health, and whilst every effort is being made to recondition and render habitable older houses, only by continued application in the building of new, clean and well-lit and ventilated homes can the dangers to health be eradicated.

In the preparation of this Report I have received stalwart assistance from every member of the Public Health Staff and I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to them for their support in this and during the year's work. I would also like to express my gratitude to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee and of the Council itself for their valuable co-operation and enthusiasm during the year's working. Much has been achieved during the period under review ; much remains to be done to ensure the continued good health of the people we all serve.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D. H. J. WILLIAMS,
Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Chairman of the Public Health Committee—

Councillor D. J. Owen.

Public Health Officers

Medical Officer of Health Dr. D. H. J. Williams, M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector Ieuan Lewis, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.
(Meat and Other Foods)

Additional Sanitary
Inspectors

(1) G. A. Rees, M.S.I.A.

(2) D. J. Davies, M.S.I.A.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND CLERICAL :

Senior Assistant John Rogers.

H. Wynne Jones, A.R.San.I., A.I.Hsg. Mary E. Davies

Rufus Thomas Gaynor Jones

Elwyn Lewis (part year) Cyril Edwards
(part year)

Mr. Elwyn Lewis returned to the Department in August, 1951, having completed his period of military training.

SECTION A—STATISTICS

Area as given on Ordnance Maps	...	...	34,969 acres
Registrar-General's Estimate of Population	...		32,340
Rateable Value	...	...	£126,335
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	£465
Birth Rate per R.G.'s birth figures:	13·54	per 1,000 estimated civilian population	

Live Birth rate per R.G.'s birth figures :

13·23 per 1,000 estimated civilian population

Still-birth rate per R.G.'s still-birth figures : 23·06 per 1,000 live and still-births.

Death-rate 14·16 per 1,000 estimated civilian population.

Deaths from Maternal Causes (Heading No. 30 of the Registrar General's Short List) :—

	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 live and still births per Registrar- General's figures</i>
No. 30 Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	1	2·28
Death-rate of Infants under one year of age—		
All Infants per 1,000 live births	30·37	
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	30·95	
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	Nil	
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ...	62	
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ...	1	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	1	
Deaths from Gastro-Enteritis (under 2 years)	2	

ANNUAL REPORT UNDER THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948

PART I OF THE ACT.

1—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors) :

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of			M/c line No. (7)
			Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	15	11	—	—	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	118	102	4	—	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	—	—	—	—	3
TOTAL ...		133	113	4	Nil	

2—Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)	M/c line No. (8)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	4	13	13	—	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	5	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	6	—	—	—	—	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	7	—	—	—	—	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	8	—	—	—	—	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—	9	—	—	—	—	9
(a) Insufficient ...	10	—	—	—	—	10
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	11	2	2	—	2	11
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	12	2	2	—	2	12
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...						
TOTAL ...	60	17	17	—	4	60
					Nil	

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111).

Nature of Work	M/c line No.	SECTION 110			SECTION 111			M/c line No.
		No. of out workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Wearing Apparel—								
Making, etc.	13	1	..	..	Nil	..	..	..
Cleaning and Washing	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Report under Factories Act, 1937

As will be seen from the detailed schedule included the supervision of all factories within the district in accordance with the requirements of the Act was carried out.

Where defects were found, suitable action was taken to remedy the defects. It is interesting to note that in no case where defects were found did it become necessary to institute proceedings, all defects being voluntarily remedied.

[illegible]

GLAMORGAN (ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY)—VITAL STATISTICS, 1951

	Estimated Population 1951	BIRTHS		DEATHS		INFANT MORTALITY		NEO NATAL MORTALITY	
		Number of Births	Rate per 1,000 Population	Number of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Population	Deaths under 1 year	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Deaths under 4 weeks	Rate per 1,000 Live Births
England and Wales	...	...	15.50	...	12.50	...	29.60	...	18.80
Administrative County	...	11,946	16.32	10,091	13.78	441	36.92	274	22.94
Urban Districts	...	8,877	16.69	7,687	14.45	350	39.43	219	24.67
Rural Districts	...	3,069	15.33	2,404	12.01	91	29.65	55	17.92
Health Division. Constituent Districts.									
Aberdare and Mountain Ash	40,710	608	14.93	751	18.45	33	54.28	23	37.83
Mountain Ash Urban	31,360	551	17.57	465	14.83	23	41.74	13	23.59
Caerphilly and Gelligaer	35,380	748	21.14	458	12.95	27	36.10	18	24.06
Gelligaer Urban	36,110	631	17.47	482	13.35	18	28.53	11	17.43
Mid-Glamorgan	13,530	227	16.78	162	11.97	8	35.24	4	17.62
Bridgend Urban	...	476	20.69	304	13.21	19	39.92	12	25.21
Maesteg Urban	...	356	15.84	313	13.92	9	25.28	4	11.24
Ogmore & Garw Urban	22,480	131	13.95	164	17.47	1	7.63	...	...
Porthcawl Urban	9,388	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Penybont Rural	33,820	564	16.68	359	10.62	25	44.33	17	30.14

Neath and District	Neath M.B. ...	31,850	454	14.25	445	13.97	22	48.46	17	37.44
	Neath Rural...	41,430	637	15.38	536	12.94	15	23.55	6	9.42
Pontypridd and Llantrisant	Pontypridd Urban	38,460	661	17.19	575	14.95	26	39.33	14	21.18
	Llantrisant Rural	25,440	482	18.95	295	11.60	16	33.20	10	20.75
Port Talbot and Glyncoerrwg	Glyncoerrwg Urban	9,343	220	23.55	122	13.06	9	40.91	7	31.82
	Port Talbot M.B.	43,970	719	16.35	545	12.39	22	30.60	12	16.69
South East Glamorgan	Barry M.B. ...	40,700	702	17.25	478	11.74	24	34.19	15	21.37
	Cardiff Rural	35,730	454	12.71	457	12.79	8	17.62	5	11.01
	Cowbridge M.B. ...	1,069	14	13.10	13	12.16	1	71.43	1	71.43
	Cowbridge Rural	19,850	303	15.26	148	7.46	9	29.70	8	26.40
	Penarth Urban	18,310	300	16.38	263	14.36	8	26.67	5	16.67
West Glamorgan	Gower Rural	11,590	201	17.34	151	13.03	5	24.88	2	9.95
	Llwchwr Urban	25,530	375	14.69	379	14.85	12	32.00	9	24.00
	Pontardawe Rural	32,340	428	13.23	458	14.16	13	30.37	7	16.36
Rhondda	Rhondda Urban	110,700	1,704	15.39	1,768	15.97	88	51.64	54	31.69

Causes of Death	Sex	Under 24 Hours	Under 1 week and over 24 hours	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under one month	One month and under three months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total under one year	Rhyndwy- clydach	Gellionen	Mawr	Ynysymond	Cilybebyll	B. & M.	Godrefraig	Allt-y-grug	Cwmlllynfell	Caegurwen
		M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F
Broncho Pneumonia		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Premature Birth ...		...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	3	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Gastro-Enteritis ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Congenital Heart Disease		1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebral Haemorrhage		1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
TOTALS		2 2	2 1	...	...	...	4 3	1 1	1 1	...	1	7 6	2 2	1 1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2 2
		4	3	...	...	...	7	2	2	1	1	13	4	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	4	

DEATHS FROM VIOLENCE, 1951

Cause	Male	Female	R'Clydach	Gell.	Mawr	Ynis.	Cil.	B. & M.	God.	Allt.	Cwm.	Cae.
Fractured Femur caused by fall	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Drowning	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gunshot Wound—Chest ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Fractured Skull and Fractured Femur	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
TOTALS	3	2	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-

SUICIDE, 1951

Cause	Male	Female	R'Clydach	Gell.	Mawr	Ynis.	Cil.	B. & M.	God.	Allt.	Cwm.	Cae.
Gunshot Wound—Brain ...	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Coal Gas Poisoning	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Disinfectant Poisoning ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Drinking Nicotine Sulphate ...	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	4	2	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	-

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS, 1951

	Male	Female	R'Clydach	Gell.	Mawr	Ynis.	Cil.	B. & M.	God.	Allt.	Cwm.	Cae.
Motor Vehicle Accidents ...	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

DEATHS IN VARIOUS MONTHS, 1951

Month	Males	Females	Total
JANUARY	45	31	76
FEBRUARY	25	20	45
MARCH	28	19	47
APRIL	21	22	43
MAY	14	13	27
JUNE	20	13	33
JULY	24	10	34
AUGUST	17	18	35
SEPTEMBER	14	8	22
OCTOBER	26	13	39
NOVEMBER	16	11	27
DECEMBER	19	11	30
TOTALS	269	189	458

ENGLAND AND WALES—VITAL STATISTICS, 1951

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1951. Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000–50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administrative County
	<i>Rates per 1,000 Home Population</i> 15.5 17.3 16.7 17.8			
Births—				
Live births	...	...	...	...
Still births	...	...	...	...
Deaths—				
All causes	...	...	...	...
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...
Influenza	...	...	...	...
Smallpox	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...
	0.61	0.65	0.63	0.61

Notifications (corrected) —									
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	0.00	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.02	0.02	0.01
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.03	0.03	0.03
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.11	1.20	1.10
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.87	3.62	3.11
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.02	0.02	0.01
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.14	0.15	0.15
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	0.00	—
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	14.07	13.93	14.64
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.99	1.04	0.72
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)							0.03	0.03	0.02
							0.02	0.02	0.02
Non-Paralytic							0.13	0.15	0.23
Foodpoisoning	...	...	...	...	...	...	29.6(a)	33.9	26.4
Deaths—									
All causes under 1 year of age	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.4	1.6	0.7
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.4	1.6	0.7
Notifications (corrected) —									
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	Rates per 1,000 10.66	Total (Live and Still) per 1,000 13.77	Births 14.90

MATERNAL MORTALITY IN ENGLAND AND WALES

<i>Intermediate List No. and Cause</i>	<i>No. of Deaths</i>	<i>Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births</i>	<i>Rates per million Women aged 15-44</i>
A115 Sepsis of Pregnancy, Child-birth and the Puerperium	70	0·10	—
A116 Abortion with Toxaemia ...	3	0·00	—
Other Toxaemias of Pregnancy and the Puerperium	167	0·24	—
A117 Haemorrhage of Pregnancy and Childbirth	91	0·13	—
A118 Abortion without mention of Sepsis or Toxaemia	37	0·05	4
A119 Abortion with Sepsis ...	66	0·09	7
A120 Other complications of Pregnancy, Childbirth and the Puerperium	125	0·18	—

(a) Per 1,000 related live births.

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE DISTRICT

(a) Laboratory Facilities.

The main pathological specimens were, as in previous years, submitted to the City and County Laboratory, Cardiff, for investigation and report. Where it was necessary to receive the reports as a matter of urgency, specimens were submitted to the Beck Laboratory, Swansea.

Water, milk and icecream samples were sent to the Cardiff Laboratory for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis.

Samples taken :

WATER:

Bacteriological Examinations	...	...	45
Chemical Analyses ...	...	...	50

MILK:

Bacteriological Examinations	...	...	46
------------------------------	-----	-----	----

ICECREAM:

Bacteriological Examinations	...	...	20
Chemical Analyses ...	...	...	20

SEWAGE:

Sewage Analyses	...	...	...	8
Effluent Analyses	...	...	...	8

(b) Welfare Services, Hospital and Ambulance Services.

The Welfare and Ambulance services are the responsibility of the Glamorgan County Authority, and all hospitals in the area are administered by the Glantawe Hospital Management Committee.

During the year, the Glamorgan Ambulance Control Centre for this area, previously housed at the Pontardawe Fire Station was transferred to accommodation provided by your Authority at Ynisderw House. It became necessary to effect certain minor internal modifications to the building, the cost of which is reflected in the rental. The new arrangements are working quite satisfactorily and a harmonious relationship exists between the Health Department and the Ambulance Officers.

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water.

The main source of water supply is the Cray Reservoir. The water is obtained by arrangement with the Swansea Corporation. This supply is supplemented by tanks and springs situated throughout the District and maintained by the Council's engineering and water department.

(1) The water supplied from all these sources is adequate in supply and is generally satisfactory in (a) quality and (b) quantity.

(2) The chemical analyses and bacteriological examination of the Council's various water supplies proved them to be satisfactory.

(3) None of the water samples taken for chemical analyses showed any evidence of contamination by lead.

(4) There is no system of standpipes in operation within the District. A very high percentage of houses and other properties situated within the boundaries are connected to one or other of the Council's supplies.

Pollution of Rivers and Streams.

The main responsibilities with regard to the pollution of rivers and streams now rest with the South West Wales Rivers Board and close co-operation is being maintained between your Council and that Authority for the purpose of preventing any nuisance which may arise.

Disinfestation.

(a) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

Number of (1) Council Houses	(i) Infested	10
	(ii) Disinfested	10
Number of (2) other Houses	(i) Infested	14
	(ii) Disinfested	14

(b) Methods Employed for Disinfesting Houses.

Where infestation existed the standard methods of disinfestation were found to be effective. Wallpaper and woodwork was stripped and articles of furniture also treated when found necessary.

The Disinfestation Centre at Ynisderw House was in operation throughout the year. Articles of clothing and bedding were treated as required and in consequence a satisfactory service was maintained.

Sewage and Sewage Effluent.

The results of analysis of samples of sewage and sewage effluent received from the County Authority showed no marked variation from the results of previous years. The sewage was shown to be of moderate strength and the effluent fairly efficiently purified.

Development of Sewerage Schemes.

The particulars of new works completed or in course of construction during 1951 are as follows :—

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Description of Works</i>	<i>Contract Price</i>	<i>Progress during 1951</i>
Llanguicke	(i) Rhydyfro Sewerage Scheme	£ 20,454	Completed
	(ii) Rhydyfro Privy Conversion Scheme ...	10,985	Commenced
Cilybebyll	(i) Rhos Sewerage Scheme	19,172	Completed
	(ii) Rhos Privy Conversion Scheme	13,012	Commenced
Ynisymond	Ynisymond Road Sewer Extension	2,389	Completed
Mawr	Craigcefnparc Sewerage Scheme	56,118	Commenced

SECTION D.—HOUSING

House Inspection.

The details of house inspections undertaken during the year will be found in the Senior Sanitary Inspector's section of this Report. The main purpose was to alleviate overcrowding and nuisances arising from sanitary defects.

Report on Statistical Analysis of Re-housing activity during the Post War years.

The available information is set out in three main tables, Table 1 dealing with re-housing activity during 1951, Tables 2 and 3 being analyses of the waiting list at the end of the year according to need and circumstance.

(a) Rehousing Effected during 1951.

TABLE 1 (*overleaf*).

Analysis of applicants re-housed during 1951, indicating

- (i) Ward.
- (ii) Occupation.
- (iii) General circumstances.

While the table is self explanatory it is desired to refer to certain facts made evident therein.

(i) The final notes showing movement between one Ward and another justify your Council's policy in this direction in that it demonstrates the existence of a need for re-housing families outside their Ward when emergencies arise.

(ii) Percentage analysis of total re-housed shows that—

73·1 % were in apartments.

37·5 % were miners.

31·25 % were associated with but not necessarily pointed for some form of illness.

23·1 % were ex-Servicemen.

12·5 % occupied unfit houses.

7·5 % were associated with but not necessarily pointed for Tuberculosis.

(b) Waiting List, 1st January, 1952.

While the preceding table shows that much has been accomplished, the waiting list now facing your Council gives cause for grave concern for there is much yet to be done if we are to radically reduce the number of families inadequately housed.

TABLE I.—ANALYSIS OF APPLICANTS RE-HOUSED.

SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR 1951.

Ward or Parish of Residence	OCCUPATIONS					Total Families Re- housed	CONDITION OF APPLICANTS					Applicants who were		Notes			
	Mines	Agriculture	Steel	Tin	Building		Others	Disabled Ex-Service Men	Other Ex-Service Men	T.B. Cases	Cases of Other Illness	Living in Unfit Houses	All other Cases		Living in Separate Homes		
Clydach ..	24	..	7	5	3	27	66	1	19	4	19	3	..	20	57	9	1 Rehoused B. & M. 1 " in Mawr
Gellionen ..	2	..	3	..	..	2	7	..	3	2	..	2	..	..	4	3	2 Rehoused Clyd 1 " in B. & M.
Mawr ..	9	..	..	..	..	10	19	..	5	..	3	..	..	11	14	5	1 Rehoused Clyd.
Ynisymond..	1	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	..	
Cilybebyll ..	1	..	4	3	..	11	19	1	2	1	5	2	..	8	12	7	Includes 6 Keyworkers
Blaenegel & Mawr	3	..	2	..	..	6	11	..	1	1	4	1	..	4	5	6	2 Rehoused Cil. Incls. 2 Keywks.
Godregraig	5	..	..	..	..	3	8	..	1	1	..	3	..	3	4	4	1 Rehoused Clyd.
Allytgrug ..	4	..	..	..	..	3	7	..	2	1	1	2	..	1	5	2	1 Rehoused Mawr
Cwmllynfell	6	..	..	..	1	5	12	..	1	2	2	4	1	2	7	5	
Caegurwen	5	..	..	1	..	4	10	..	1	..	2	..	1	6	7	3	
TOTALS ..	60	..	17	9	4	71	161	2	36	12	37	17	2	56	117	44	

TABLE II.

ANALYSIS OF WAITING LIST AT 31st DECEMBER, 1951

indicating (i) Ward of Residence of Applicants.

(ii) Occupation.

(iii) Apartments and Overcrowding.

Ward	Total on Waiting List	OCCUPATIONS						LIVING IN		Total on Waiting List
		Mines	Agri-culture	Steel	Tin	Build-ing	Others	Apart-ments	Separate Homes with Over-crowding Points	
Clyd. ...	191	48	1	12	9	14	107	127	18	191
Gell. ...	100	20	—	16	11	6	47	59	14	100
Mawr ...	29	18	—	1	—	2	8	20	4	29
Ynis. ...	21	7	—	1	3	1	9	8	1	21
Cil. ...	126	18	3	16	21	15	53	51	20	126
B. & M. ...	173	29	—	31	26	13	74	103	12	173
God. ...	72	32	—	—	10	5	25	35	8	72
Allt. ...	155	71	1	6	5	6	66	88	22	155
Cwm. ...	79	57	—	—	—	1	21	40	7	79
Cae. ...	136	73	—	1	2	5	55	97	12	136
TOTALS ...	1,082	373	5	84	87	68	465	628	118	1,082

TABLE III

Analysis of Waiting List, indicating

(i) Ward.

(ii) Types of houses required.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF WAITING LIST, 1951.
CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO
TYPE OF HOUSE NEEDED

	Flats (1BR.)		2 BR.		3 BR.		4 BR.		Total	
	Jan.	Dec.	Jan.	Dec.	Jan.	Dec.	Jan.	Dec.	Jan.	Dec.
Clydach ...	38	56	101	98	38	34	4	3	181	191
Gellionen ...	12	20	57	64	12	14	1	2	82	100
Mawr ...	9	14	19	12	8	3	1	...	37	29
Ynisymond ...	8	10	8	7	3	3	...	1	19	21
Cilybebyll ...	19	26	56	66	38	32	3	2	116	126
Blaenegel & Mawr	47	52	92	100	19	20	2	1	160	173
Godrergraig ...	17	18	41	40	15	13	1	1	74	72
Alltygrug ...	16	27	83	96	28	28	3	4	130	155
Cwmllynfell ...	15	18	44	45	15	14	1	2	75	79
Caegurwen ...	18	19	81	88	24	28	2	1	125	136
TOTAL ...	199	260	582	616	200	189	18	17	1,999	1,082

Remarks.

(i) Table II is significant for it shows that 58 % of applicants are in apartments and that 70 % are either in apartments or overcrowded in separate houses.

(ii) Table III shows how the demand for types of houses has varied over the year under review. The greatest rise has been in the Flat/2Br. Class. Of the 1,082 applicants in the area 876, or about 80 % of them require one or two-bedroomed houses. Your Council will no doubt have regard to this fact when approving types of houses for construction in the various Wards.

(c) Summary for Post War Period.

Such facts as are included in this section of this Report tend to be disheartening unless the basic reasons underlying housing need are also taken into account. Young married persons who pre-war for economic reasons and during war years for Service reasons lived with parents now desire homes of their own. Full employment has made this economically possible and years of sharing a house has made it a necessity.

The number of applications on the present Waiting List must not be allowed to obscure the fact that nearly 600 families have been settled in Council houses during post-war years. The information given in Table IV following illustrates the distribution and the types of families re-housed.

TABLE IV—ANALYSIS OF APPLICANTS RE-HOUSED SUMMARY TO DATE—END OF 1951.

Ward or Parish of Residence	OCCUPATIONS					Total Families Re- housed	CONDITION OF APPLICANTS						Applicants who were		REHOUSED IN		
	Mines	Agriculture	Steel	Tin	Building	Others	Disabled Ex-Service Men	Other Ex-Service Men	T.B. Cases	Cases of Other Illness	Living in Unfit Houses		All other Cases	Living in Separate Homes	New Houses	Other Accom- modation	Casual Vacancies
Clydach ..	71	..	15	12	3	96	5	57	12	35	5	1	82	173	24	4	21
Gellionen ..	4	..	8	4	..	12	..	7	5	3	4	..	9	15	13	3	11
Mawr ..	24	..	..	..	..	15	..	8	1	4	..	..	26	25	14	..	5
Ynisymond..	4	1	1	..	..	7	..	1	..	5	..	..	7	7	6	..	1
Cilybebyll ..	5	1	8	5	..	24	2	10	8	7	3	..	13	28	15	..	5
Blaenegel & Mawr	17	..	13	9	..	43	..	20	13	17	2	1	29	57	25	1	9
Godrergraig	26	..	..	2	..	15	1	6	6	5	4	1	20	29	14	..	6
Alltygrug ..	21	..	..	2	..	15	1	8	10	5	5	1	8	26	12	2	18
Cwmllynfell	13	..	..	..	1	11	..	3	3	3	6	2	8	15	10	..	7
Caegurwen	44	..	1	4	..	25	1	13	9	13	1	2	35	60	14	..	8
TOTALS	229	2	46	38	4	263	10	113	67	97	30	8	237	435	147	10*	91

* Other Accommodation referred to consists mainly of requisitioned premises.

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK.

SUMMARY OF REGISTRATIONS UNDER THE MILK REGULATIONS

<i>Purpose for which Registered</i>	<i>Parish of</i>					<i>Sources from Outside Area</i>	<i>Total Regis- tered</i>
	<i>Rhyndwy- clydach</i>	<i>Llan- guicke</i>	<i>Cily- bebyll</i>	<i>Ynisy- mond</i>	<i>Mawr</i>		
Distributors ...	4	12	1	...	1	3	21
Dairies ...	5	12	1	...	1	...	19
Dealers—Accred- ited Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dealers—Tuber- culin Tested Milk	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Dealers—Pasteur- ised Milk	5	13	2	1	2	...	23
Dealers—Sterilised Milk	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Supplementary Licences—All Milks	...	...	...	...	...	15	15
Total Registrations	15	37	5	1	4	18	80

Milk Supply.

During the course of the year the Council's inspectorate took every precaution to ensure a clean and wholesome milk supply by applying the Milk Regulations. As in previous years the main sources of supply continue to be (a) Farms producing within the area; (b) farms producing outside and retailing within the area; (c) bulk suppliers who treat milk outside for retail within the area. Close liaison continues to be maintained with officers of the Ministry of Agriculture in all matters appertaining to this important liquid food.

Milk Samples.

The results of analysis of samples taken during the year and sent to the laboratory at Cardiff are given below :—

<i>Group</i>	<i>No. Taken</i>	<i>No. Satis- factory</i>	<i>No. Unsatis- factory</i>	<i>% Satis- factory</i>
City and County Laboratory, Cardiff, Bacteriological Examination	46	41	5	89.1%

In the cases where unsatisfactory results were obtained those responsible were advised as to the precautions necessary to improve their supplies.

SECTION F. — PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES FOR EACH MONTH, 1951

Disease	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever	3	—	1	2	1	—	2	1	—	1	2	1	14
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	28	4	6	—	2	—	2	1	—	1	3	3	50
Measles	12	44	47	116	61	42	7	—	—	—	1	—	330
Whooping Cough	5	14	25	13	12	9	20	20	16	7	5	9	155
Erysipelas	2	—	2	—	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	8
Acute Poliomyelitis Paralytic	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis Non-Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Dysentery	—	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Food Poisoning	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
TOTALS	50	67	82	133	78	52	31	25	16	10	11	13	568

PARTICULARS OF INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS DURING THE YEAR 1951

Disease	Total	WARD OR PARISH										Number of Cases shown admitted to Hospital
		Clydach	Gelli-onen	Mawr	Ynysymond	Cilybebyll	B. & M	Godrergraig	Allt-y-grug	Cwm-llyn-fell	Cae-gurwen	
Scarlet Fever ...	14	6	1	1	1	2	1	...	1	...	1	3
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia ...	50	...	3	1	...	17	22	2	3	...	2	...
Measles ...	330	1	8	8	4	51	37	13	75	52	81	...
Whooping Cough ...	155	48	8	2	1	28	27	17	11	...	13	...
Erysipelas ...	8	...	2	...	...	...	5	1	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis—Paralytic	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Acute Poliomyelitis—Non-Paralytic	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	3
Dysentery ...	5	...	...	...	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	1
Food Poisoning ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS	568	56	22	13	7	102	92	34	93	52	97	9

TUBERCULOSIS

AGES	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— 1 year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1— 4 years ...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
5—14 „ ...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...
15—24 „ ...	4	6	...	...	...	...	...	...
25—34 „ ...	3	3	...	1	...	3	...	...
35—44 „ ...	4	...	...	...	4	3	...	...
45—54 „ ...	2	...	1	...	2	...	...	...
55—64 „ ...	1	...	1	1	1	...	...	1
65 and upwards	1	1	...	...	1	2	...	...
TOTALS ...	15	12	3	4	8	8	...	1

Rate of Incidence of New Cases : 1·05 per 1,000 civilian population
 Death Rate from this Disease : 0·53 per 1,000 civilian population

NUMBER OF CASES ON TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE YEAR

Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Respiratory and Non-Respiratory
M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	TOTAL
140	134	274	42	48	90	364

Rate of Incidence : 11·20 per 1,000 civilian population.

NUMBER OF CASES ON TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER AT THE END OF THE YEAR

Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Respiratory and Non-Respiratory
M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	TOTAL
145	126	271	44	49	93	364

Rate of Incidence : 11·26 per 1,000 civilian population.

RAINFALL IN 1951—AT WERN HOUSE, YSTALYFERA

<i>Month</i>	<i>Total Depth</i>	<i>Greatest fall in 24 hours</i>		<i>Number of days with .01 or more recorded</i>
		DATE	INCHES	
January	8.74	5/1/51	1.21	26
February	6.41	4/2/51	1.10	20
March	6.45	7/3/51	1.06	20
April	5.13	4/4/51	1.09	15
May	3.11	27/5/51	.74	14
June	2.28	14/6/51	.87	11
July	1.37	10/7/51	.54	11
August	11.94	26/8/51	2.36	24
September	7.56	15/9/51	1.26	17
October	1.71	21/10/51	.59	9
November	12.39	4/11/51	1.81	23
December	7.18	19/12/51	.95	21
TOTALS	74.27			211

Rain Gauge.

Diameter of Funnel—5 inches.

Height of top—Above Ground, 1 foot 6 inches.

Above Sea Level, 240 feet.

SENIOR SANITARY AND SHOPS' INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT, 1951

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year 1951.

In this area, as indeed in all others, housing continues to be the major function of your inspectorate. Old houses are deteriorating and newer premises await repair for reasons discussed later in this Report.

Refuse collection has proceeded with little change save for boundary adjustments in the town centre. Land reclamation by refuse tipping has in one instance been brought to a successful conclusion.

Food premises have been supervised and particular reference paid to premises where food is prepared.

During the year your Council authorised the purchase of instruments to record pollution of the atmosphere. This new field will provide useful data in an industrial area such as ours.

These introductory paragraphs are intended as a general review and opportunity is taken in the report to give more detailed information.

PART I.—GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH.

Inspections for the Year 1951.

(a) All types of premises under Public Health and Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	3,021
(b) Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	106
(c) Farms, Cowsheds and Dairies, Milkshops, etc.	...					80
(d) Factories and Workplaces	...	...	...	...		111
(e) Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	...	136
(f) Miscellaneous (including Food Stores and Butchers' Shops)	...	...	...	...	...	528
(g) Inspections under Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1950	...	...	...	...	...	314
(h) Inspections under Shops Act, 1950	...	...	...	...		231
(i) Inspections of Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...		67

REFUSE COLLECTION, 1951.

District No.	ORGANISATION				VEHICLES AND PERSONNEL			
	Area Served	No. of Houses Served	Frequency of Collection	Disposal Points	Make of Vehicle	Type and Body	Date of First Registration	No. of Personnel
1	CLYDACH All Clydach to Mond Works.	1,775	Main roads daily, Monday to Friday. Business Premises daily, including Saturdays. Other roads 3 times per week.	Rhyddwen, Craigeifnparc.	Ford	2/3 ton 7 cu. yard all steel covered body	6/6/46	3
2	ALLTWEN AND CLYDACH. Clydach from Mond to Trebanos Bon Marche. Alltwen Glais.	1,733	Do.	Do.	Bedford	2/3 ton 7 cu. yard all steel covered body	29/6/50	3
3	PONTARDAWE Bon Marche, Swansea Road, Trebanos, to Pontardawe Cross. Rhydyfro. Ynismeudwy, up to Jubilee Stores plus Maesycloed, Pendarren. All Pontardawe.	1,597	Do.	Off Brecon Road	Bedford	2/3 ton 7 cu. yard all steel covered body	20/4/48	3
4	YSTALYFERA Cwmtwrch. Godrergraig, down to Jubilee Stores, plus all side streets.	1,617	Do.	Alltygrug	Bedford	2/3 ton 5 cu. yard all steel covered body	26/3/46	3
5	GWAUNCAEGURWEN. Whole of the Caegurwen Ward.	1,547	Do.	Off Brynamman Road	Bedford	2/3 ton 7 cu. yard all steel covered body	20/10/46	3
General Replacement	All areas as required during emergencies				Bedford	5 ton open	17/8/42	

Public Cleansing.

(a) REFUSE COLLECTION.

(i) DIRECT LABOUR COLLECTION.

This authority's direct labour service has since its inception nearly 20 years ago been characterised by two factors, viz. :—

(a) Mechanisation.

(b) Dustless loading bodies.

These two factors were maintained throughout the war years when replacements were difficult. The post war years have seen a complete renewal of the regular fleet and all vehicles in daily use are of modern design. In the interests of efficient operation, however, replacement on a planned basis should commence in 1952/3.

GENERAL OPERATION.

The scheme initiated in 1950 has worked smoothly, providing a minimum collection frequency of 3 times per week and a daily collection for the main road business premises.

Slight adjustments of boundaries were made in the town centre and Trebanos during the year as experience showed change necessary. Frequency was in each case unimpaired but overlap of lorry districts was eliminated.

PROVISION OF DUSTBINS.

Your Council has approved the principle of the municipal dustbin system but has deferred implementation until the scheme will be more economic to operate than at present.

The provision of dustbins from the rate fund, or provision and recovery of 5/- per annum in respect of each premises must be considered in relation to the economic life of a bin.

(ii) REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Disposal points are indicated in the preceding table. It will be necessary in the near future to establish a disposal site within the newly-formed direct labour area in order to avoid excessive travelling for disposal purposes.

Three full-time tip attendants are employed for disposal duties. Experience indicates that disposal is in this area most economically effected by manual attention and mechanical finishing.

Carreg-yr-afon Park, Godrergraig, has been considerably extended in area due to controlled tipping. The work was completed during the year and the land brought to a level surface by a mechanical leveller.

As most of our refuse tips are on exposed sites tip shelters are being erected for use in excessively bad weather.

The Rhyddwen, Craigcefnpare, is now the main disposal site for refuse collected south of Pontardawe town. Levelling operations at this site are being carried out at the request of the Mawr Parish Council.

Concern has been expressed both by your Council and its officers, due to the fact that children play at these disposal sites even when fences are erected.

(iii) CONTRACTS.

Contractors are still employed for collection of refuse at Velindre, Garnswllt, Cwmllynfell and Rhiwfawr. The inclusion of these areas in a direct labour scheme is considered uneconomic unless contract prices rise considerably.

(b) NIGHT SOIL REMOVAL.

This work is carried out by Contractors in the following areas :—

<i>Area</i>				<i>No. of Pails Removed during year 1951</i>
Cilybebyll	...	...	...	8,235
Rhydyfro	...	...	...	6,632
Rhiwfawr	...	...	...	3,141
Ynysymond	...	...	...	5,035
Craigcefnpare	...	...	...	13,230
				36,273

The sewerage scheme at Rhiwfawr has been completed and is in operation. Collection, however, still continues in that part of Rhiwfawr not included in the scheme. Schemes are now in operation to sewer the Rhydyfro, Rhos, and Craigcefnpare areas.

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948.

The factories and workplaces of the area have been given attention during the year. While some of our factories are of the heavy industrial type the definition of "factory" in the Factories Act brings most premises where work is carried on within our jurisdiction.

It is the function of the authority to deal with health provisions in all factories where there is no mechanical power and with water supply certification, sanitary accommodation and means of escape in case of fire for factories employing mechanical power.

Workplaces are also the responsibility of your Council mainly from the point of ventilation. The report of the Gowers Committee will, if implemented, provide extended powers for dealing with this and other types of premises.

The questions of rodent destruction at factories and clean food handling at factory canteens are dealt with in the appropriate sections of this Report.

Rodent Destruction.

The above service was fully maintained during 1950 and the work carried out is reviewed and classified according to the type of premises involved.

(a) PRIVATE PREMISES.

Complaints from all sources were dealt with and advice given to householders in order to prevent recurrence. Infestations were in the main of minor degree and of recent occurrence. These premises were treated without charge to the occupier.

Where it was thought that surface infestations were due to sewer infestations care was taken to ensure that house drains and inspection chambers were in a sound condition.

(b) BUSINESS PREMISES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS.

A number of business premises were treated and the occupiers charged on a basis of total cost *plus* 10% administrative charge. This scale of charges is approved by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries who pay 50% of all rodent destruction costs after business premises costs have been deducted.

All except one of the works and collieries in the area call upon your Council's services for rodent destruction. A private firm serves the one works concerned. All the undertakings served locally express satisfaction with the efficiency of the treatments.

(c) SEWERS.

All sewers in the area are treated twice per annum, in or about January and July. The extra labour required for the few weeks of each treatment is recruited locally. As, however, the accurate assessment of bait "take" requires some experience serious consideration is at present being given to an alternative system whereby inaccurate "take" assessment is avoided. This is important as over assessment causes bait to be laid unnecessarily while the reverse leaves infested sections inadequately treated.

(d) LOCAL AUTHORITY PREMISES.

Refuse tips and other Local Authority premises were kept under supervision and treated as necessary.

Housing—Repair, Overcrowding and Demolition.

(a) REPAIR.

The repair of existing premises is a problem much in the forefront of discussion at the present time. Each succeeding year finds poor houses deteriorating further and fresh properties brought to the attention of your officers as requiring repairs. Meanwhile the factors that make owners resist the notices served upon them intensify their effect as costs rise.

The economic aspect of house ownership is not directly a concern of your Council or its officers except for the determination of "reasonable cost" under the Housing Act, 1936. It is at the same time pertinent to assess the situation that exists to-day, for the increasing resistance of owners to comply with notices causes your officers to expend much energy with little result. The present high cost of house repair compares very unfavourably with the present rental which basically is stabilised at 1939 level. Rent revision is a complicated problem, bound up among other things with the cost of living index. Many are the solutions offered, but two are commented upon as they affect the work of your inspectorate in effecting the repair of domestic premises.

RODENT DESTRUCTION, 1951

Ward / Parish	Premises treated, including Refuse Tips, Brooks, River banks				Sewer Baiting		Combined Figures		
	No. Treated	No. of Baiting Points	No. of Baits Laid	Esti- mated Kill	No. of Manholes Treated	No. of Baits Laid	Total Premises and Manholes Treated	Total No. of Baiting Points	Total Baits Laid
Clydach ...	19	284	1,136	331	{ 638	1,914	{ 657	922	3,050
Gellionen ...	5	65	260	35		{ Joint treatment with Clydach		{ ...	5
Mawr ...	...	...	...	...	{ No sewer available		{ ...		...
Ynisymond ...	4	28	112	37		{		{	4
Cilybebyll ...	13	183	732	202	{ 304		{ 912		13
Blaenegel and Mawr ...	39	608	2,432	616		{ 44 Joint treat ment with All tygrug Ward & G'graig		{ 132	343
Godrergraig ...	31	355	1,420	397	{ 286		{ 858		75
Alltygrug ...	25	301	1,204	363		{ ...		{ ...	311
Cwmllynfell ...	6	144	576	208	{ 368		{ 1,104		6
Caegurwen ...	21	279	1,116	258		{ 1,640		{ 4,920	389
TOTALS ...	163	2,247	8,988	2,447	{		{		1,803

(i) Any scheme which makes the cost of repair the responsibility of the occupier either through repayment to the landlord on a rent instalment system or otherwise is likely to result in a diminution of complaints. It would also create a tenant resistance to repairs found by routine inspection and would eventually result in a deterioration of dwelling houses.

(ii) It is to be hoped that the difficulties created by the rent revision scheme of 1923 will not be repeated. The onus should be placed upon the owner to obtain a certificate from the Local Authority that the house is fit before the increase is charged rather than that the occupier be required to secure a certificate of unfitness in order to avoid the increase.

Details of action taken to improve the condition of house property in the area are given later in this section. The foregoing is intended to indicate the difficulties that arise from time to time.

RENT RESTRICTIONS ACTS, 1923-42.

Applications were received during the year for certificates of disrepair under the above Acts. Nine applications were granted. Your Council in these Acts merely serves as a certifying authority. It is left to each applicant to determine his own course of action with regard to the certificate granted.

(b) OVERCROWDING.

It becomes increasingly obvious that the overcrowding standards of the Housing Act, 1936, are in need of revision. These standards take all rooms above a certain floor area into account and ignore a child below one year of age. The suggested revision would certainly emphasise the national overcrowding problem but it is not thought that a problem increases because its extent is known. Rather does accurate assessment assist in solution.

It will be seen that 142 overcrowded families were rehoused during the year. In these cases actual if not statutory overcrowding existed.

It has not been necessary during the year to take action as indicated in Circular 17/49 (Wales) for increasing the permitted number under the Housing Act, 1936.

(c) DEMOLITION AND CLOSURE.

Action was taken during the year in respect of 14 properties. These properties were distributed as follows :—

<i>Ward</i>	<i>Demolition Order</i>	<i>Demolished</i>	<i>Undertaking Accepted</i>
Clydach ...	2	—	—
Gellionen ...	1	—	1
Cilybebyll ...	—	—	3
Godrergraig	2	2	—
Alltygrug ...	—	—	2
Cwmllynfell ...	1	—	2
Totals	6	2	8

The figure of 14 houses dealt with is a substantial increase on the previous year but falls far short of the number necessary for effective slum clearance. While, however, the problems of apartment families, ill-health and overcrowding make their undeniable demands upon the number of new houses available, it is difficult to see how this number may be exceeded.

Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year.

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts) ... 843
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 1,915
- (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) (above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... 843
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 1,324
- (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... Nil since completion of Survey
- (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation ... 843

Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices :

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	186
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Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a) by Owners (in process of completion)	Nil
(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners (in process of completion)	Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	317
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	144
(a) by Owners	141
(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners ...	3

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	6
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	2
(3) Premises in respect of which Undertakings to repair were accepted	8

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

Housing Act, 1936—Part IV.—Overcrowding.

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	...	309
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	...	598
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	...	2,573
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	...	...	15
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	...	142
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	...	...	582
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

Joint County Rural Housing Committee.

This body affords a convenient medium for the exchange of views between rural authorities in the County.

The Committee has continued to meet during 1951 on a quarterly basis when matters arising out of the Survey were considered.

Common Lodging Houses.

One Common Lodging House only remains in the area and this was registered during the year as a satisfactory premises. The occupants are permanent residents and there is little if any casual use.

Land Charges.

A total of 291 land charges inquiries were dealt with departmentally during the year. These were distributed on a Ward basis as follows :—

Clydach	67	Ynisymond	9
Gellionen	19	Cilybebyll	32
Mawr	20	Blaenegel & Mawr ...	44
Godrergraig	7	Alltygrug	41
Cwmllynfell	7	Caegürwen	45

Atmospheric and River Pollution.

(a) ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

During 1951, your Council resolved to become members of the National Smoke Abatement Society. This organisation does much valuable work in connection with air pollution.

A decision was also taken to set up instruments at selected points in the area in order to measure accurately various forms of pollution. These instruments have been ordered and two sites selected. A deposit gauge will be set up at the Council Offices. This will measure the amount of solid matter, grit, dust, etc., deposited on a given area and the result expressed as tons per square mile per month. Instruments will be placed at the Council Offices and also at the County Yard, Clydach, to measure the amount of sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere.

These measurements not only have a local significance but, as they will be supplied also to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, will enable us to play our part in building up a national picture.

The National Smoke Abatement Society and the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research have accumulated vast knowledge on the problems of atmospheric pollution. Their advice and assistance is now available to your officers and will be sought whenever necessary.

(b) COLLIERY DUST.

No complaints were received during 1951 and the observations of your officers confirm that the improvements effected in previous years are still effective.

(c) POLLUTION OF RIVERS.

The formation of the Rivers Boards brings into being a new body for dealing with pollution of rivers generally. The Act concerned, however, does not repeal your Council's powers under the Public Health Act, 1936, regarding deposition of matter into watercourses and streams, and it will be necessary to have regard to this.

During the year officers of the Rivers Board for the area were met on site at one colliery where spoil tips were causing diversion and pollution of a river.

The Department have supplied the Board with the fullest details of this Council's past activities in the field of river pollution in order to assist them in their activities.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(1) MILK.

Further efforts were made during the year to implement your Council's powers under various regulations which came into force in 1949. The trend of the previous year has become even more apparent during 1951 in that practically the whole of the milk retailed in the area is of a designated type. There are no treatment plants within the area of your Authority and these designated milks are retailed in bottles by local retailers and supplied by wholesalers in surrounding districts.

Collection points of bulk milk supplies in course of transit to treatment plants and similar points of dispersal in the case of bottles deposited for collection by the retailer have again proved a source of difficulty and it became necessary to hold discussions at Ynisderw House between wholesalers and local retailers. These discussions which were well attended have resulted in an agreed form of delivery to various points which comply with the regulations.

A number of complaints were received during the year from householders that bottles of milk were being received with the tops badly damaged. It has been ascertained that such complaints were common to other parts of the country and are due to the fact that birds attracted by the brightly coloured lipped caps are using bottles deposited on doorsteps as a means of matutinal refreshment. Retailers have been advised to place all bottles under cover wherever possible and householders recommended to remove bottles from doorsteps and window sills as soon as possible after they are delivered.

MILK SUPPLY.

(a) Number of Inspections made of Dairies and Milkshops during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
(b) Number of Dairies which were internally reconditioned, new floors and channels in cement concrete, additional windows fixed for improving the lighting and ventilation, new stalls and troughs, etc., erected	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
(c) New Dairies erected	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
(d) Number of Dairies limewashed on internal surfaces of walls, and interior of roofs cleansed as the result of informal action taken	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

Samples of graded and ungraded milk have been taken frequently. Particulars of these are given in the Medical Officer of Health's Report.

(2) MEAT.

The slaughtering of animals is, under an Order made in 1940, centralised at Swansea and Llandilo. Meat for consumption within the area is delivered by van from these establishments to allocation depots at Clydach and Ystalyfera, local distribution being effected from these depots.

The transport and handling of meat to and at retail establishments has been dealt with during the year. Frequent inspections were made of the vans used for carrying the meat prior to allocation.

The co-operation of the Department is sought from time to time by the Ministry of Food for the inspection of meat illicitly slaughtered. In such cases the meat concerned is inspected and a certificate given in accordance with the findings of the post-mortem examinations.

(3) BUTCHERS' SHOPS—MEAT PRODUCTS.

The above premises have been found satisfactory upon inspection and are well equipped for the purpose of handling meat. In a number of cases fittings have been renewed and shop premises redecorated. Almost all are fitted with refrigerators that ensure efficient cold storage of meat stocks held on the premises. Advice is given during inspection regarding sterilisation and handling of implements used for the manufacture of meat products and butchers informed of the dangers that can result from careless practices. The overalls used by personnel are clean and the general standard very satisfactory. It is thought that the wartime practice of opening only for four days per week which has been carried into the post-war years gives butchers an opportunity of cleaning their shops and equipment during the days that they are not open for business.

(4) SALE AND STORAGE OF FOODS (GENERAL).

Improvements have been effected in a number of instances by informal action under Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. The fact that the Shops Act, 1950, is also administered by the Department enables action to be taken for both these purposes where food premises are concerned. Improvements have been effected not only in respect of structural conditions but also in the provision of running hot water supply and artificial lighting. Some food premises have also installed refrigerators. The comment made in 1950 regarding the difficulty experienced in effecting improvements in food premises that were originally domestic still holds true.

(5) TRANSPORT AND HANDLING OF FOOD.

The transport of food has considerably improved during the last few years. The old practice of bicycle deliveries in open baskets by young boys has to all intents and purposes ceased. Most deliveries after the retail sale are to-day made by motor transport with greater efficiency and cleanliness. The food byelaws now in operation in the area have been implemented in so far as standards are concerned, but it has not been found necessary to institute proceedings.

(6) ICECREAM.

Samples of icecream have been taken for chemical analysis and bacteriological examination during the year. The supervision of icecream is not now as in previous years confined to the summer months only. It is a product that is manufactured and sold throughout the year. It has become increasingly evident during the year that with the coming into force of regulations regarding manufacture the small retailer tends to cease production and instead turn to the sale of prepacked icecream manufactured by the larger factories. While such a tendency brings in its turn the possibility of epidemics attributed to icecream being more widespread because of the wider range of sale of the infected product, this can be discounted by the fact that the capital available to the larger manufacturer enables the latest type of plant and means of sterilisation to be installed. The change, therefore, is welcomed and it is hoped that the trend will continue.

(7) LICENSED PREMISES, CLUBS, ETC.

The owners of licensed premises in the area have at the request of the Department effected further improvements in the structure, washing facilities and sanitary condition of their licensed houses. The survey of 1949 has proved invaluable in providing background information in this matter. The Department co-operates fully with the police and licensing authorities in order that a uniform standard shall be obtained.

(8) UNFIT FOODS.

The following articles of food were found to be unfit for human consumption :—

Bacon	...	...	67 lbs.	Soup Powder	...	20 pkts.
Pudd'g Mixture	...	38	pkts.	Milk Powder	...	33 pkts.
Cheese	...	...	22 lbs.	Sauces & Pickles	...	6 jars.
Jam	...	...	51 lbs.	Tins (assorted)	...	47 tins
Meat (fresh)	...	178 $\frac{1}{4}$	lbs.	Tins (fruit)	...	759 tins
Artificial Cream	...	10	pkts.	Tins (meat)	...	60 tins
Dried Fruit	...	4	lbs.	Tins (milk)	...	19 tins
Junket Powder	...	30	pkts.	Tins (Tomatoes)	...	117 tins
Margarine	...	6	lbs.	Coffee, Cocoa, etc.	...	11 lbs.
Flour Mixture	...	65	pkts.	Cake	...	24 lbs.
Cooked Ham	...	416 $\frac{3}{4}$	lbs. (40 tins)			

Disinfection.

The disinfection plant was operating efficiently during the year and clothing and bedding was returned to householders with as little delay as possible.

Particular attention is paid to disinfection of premises following removal to hospital, or death. Bed and immediate personal clothing is removed for disinfection while the room or rooms considered infective are treated with a suitable disinfectant in atomised form.

1—Number of investigations made of Notified Infectious Disease cases	61
2—Number of premises fumigated or otherwise disinfected	51
3—Number of cases where clothes were steam disinfected	30
4—(a) Number of cases where bedding was destroyed after Tuberculosis	5
(b) Compensation paid for such bedding under Section 167, Public Health Act, 1936	£28

Householders were provided with disinfectant and disinfecting soap, precautionary measures for preventing spread of infection being fully explained. Special attention was paid to those cases nursed at home. Children of school age were excluded for the appropriate time, where necessary.

Disinfestation.

Advice and assistance has been given to householders during the year for the eradication of various infestations. While our work is normally confined to eradication of ant, beetle and bug infestation, the Department's assistance has been sought in respect of swarms of bees and wasps. Although the latter may be thought to have little or no public health significance it was considered that the Department was perhaps better equipped to deal with the matter and complainants were readily assisted. It was pleasing to note the diminution in bed bug infestations in comparison to pre-war years. This is thought to be due to improved insecticides developed of late.

Laboratory facilities are available to the Department for the identification of any insects outside normal infestations. Identification is essential in order to determine the life history and means of eradication.

Departmental Distribution of Disinfectants and Insecticides.

Disinfectant (Liquid) ...	106 bottles
Disinfectant Soap	55½ lbs.
D.D.T. Liquid	56 bottles
D.D.T. Powder	74 packets
Rat Biscuits	99 dozen

PART II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE SHOPS ACT, 1950.

In accordance with the Agreement between this Authority and the Glamorgan County Council, the Report annually required is herewith submitted on the administration of the Shops Act, 1950.

1—Early Closing.

The early closing day varies in the district by reason of traders having exercised their legal right of opting for the alternative day.

The exercise of the above right has resulted in a variation of day within the same township. The community, however, appears to be well served. Particular attention has been paid to ensure that premises open for the sale of exempted goods do not sell articles not included in that Schedule.

2—Closing Hours.

Shops within the area close according to the times set out in the Act and associated Regulations. Regulation 60 A.B. which sets out winter closing hours operated within the appropriate dates.

The hours of closing permitted by the Shops Act, 1950, operate within the area, the local Closing Order of 1915 being invalid, due to incompatibility with the above Act.

In view of the operation of Regulation 60 A B your Council resolved to extend closing time for the week preceding Christmas, and to communicate with the County Council regarding their confirmation of the variation.

3—Employment of Young Persons.

The provisions of the Shops Act, 1934, as amended by the Young Persons (Employment) Act, 1938, are generally observed within the area. There are recorded to date 37 young persons employed in and about shops. The hours of work of these young persons and the conditions of their employment are duly investigated during routine inspections.

No matters affecting young persons and requiring action under the above Act arose during the year. Liaison with the Youth Employment Bureau has proved of much assistance in the administration of these provisions.

4—Infringements.

It has not been necessary during the year to take formal action against persons infringing this Act. Provided that the legal provisions are, of course, fully implemented, such a statement is thought preferable to one involving proceedings, for, particularly where welfare is concerned, it is felt that compliance through informal action is of more lasting benefit than a successful prosecution. Occupiers are urged to instal gas or electric geysers, particularly in large lock-up premises where no domestic facilities are available.

In order to avoid infringements details of general closing hours, winter closing hours and Christmas extensions were published in the local press at appropriate times.

5—Authorised Officers.

Your Senior Sanitary Inspector and first Additional Sanitary Inspector are Authorised Officers under the above Act.

6—General Observations on the Year's Work.

(a) During 1951, 231 inspections were made for matters falling within the Shops Act, 1950.

(b) The main shop premises of the area are of a type that have living accommodation at the rear. While this provides automatic compliance with the health and other arrangements generally it sometimes creates difficulty in that close watch has to be kept that closing hours in general and Sunday trading regulations in particular are not infringed.

IEUAN LEWIS,

*Senior Sanitary Inspector and
Shops' Inspector.*



